

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging President Clinton to stem the surge of steel imports into the United States from Asia, Russia, and other regions.

ALEXA, LANDSKE

_____ 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on

Introduced

First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging President Clinton to stem the surge of steel imports into the United States from Asia, Russia, and other regions.

Whereas, the current financial crises in Asia, Russia, and other foreign countries have involved massive depreciation in the currencies of several key steel producing and steel consuming countries, and triggered a collapse in the domestic demand for steel in these countries;

Whereas, the United States of America imports of finished steel mill products have increased by 79 percent in the first 5 months of 1998, compared to the same period in 1997, due to the financial crises in Asia, Russia, and other foreign countries;

Whereas, these record levels of steel imports from Russia, Asia, and other countries in 1998 impose a great threat to the competitiveness of United States' steel companies;

Whereas, the increased level of imported steel results in lost sales and revenue for the steel companies and threatens

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the job security of as many as 100,000 steel workers nationwide;

Whereas, the pressure from unfair trading practices that the steel industry is facing today will soon affect the revenues of other industries causing these industries to lose revenues and sales and threatening more American jobs;

Whereas, Indiana is the number one steel producing state in the nation, producing 23 percent of the raw steel made in the United States;

Whereas, the steel industry in Indiana employs nearly 30,000 Hoosiers;

Whereas, because Indiana produces more steel than any other state, Indiana workers, companies, and communities are likely to suffer the most from the influx of foreign steel;

Whereas, the steel industry provides stable tax revenue, employment, and support to Indiana communities;

Whereas, the loss of these benefits would create a hardship for workers and their families throughout the entire state; and

Whereas, the steel industry in Indiana and throughout the United States is facing a major crisis resulting from the deluge of foreign steel into the market; this unavoidable crisis will adversely affect the lives of thousands of Indiana citizens.

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly
of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges President
2 Clinton to immediately review the entry into the customs territory of the
3 United States of all steel products that are the product or manufacture of
4 Australia, China, South Africa, Ukraine, Indonesia, India, Japan, Russia,
5 South Korea, or Brazil.

6 SECTION 2. That if the President finds that the governments of
7 Australia, China, South Africa, Ukraine, Indonesia, India, Japan, Russia,
8 South Korea, or Brazil are not abiding by the spirit and letter of
9 international trade agreements with respect to imports of steel products
10 into the United States, to immediately impose a one year ban on the
11 imports of all steel products that are the product or manufacture of
12 Australia, China, South Africa, Ukraine, Indonesia, India, Japan, Russia,
13 South Korea, or Brazil.

14 SECTION 3. That the President is encouraged to establish a task
15 force within the executive branch to closely monitor imports of steel
16 products into the United States from other countries to determine whether
17 international trade agreements are being violated.

18 SECTION 4. That, not later than March 1, 1999, the President is
19 urged to report to Congress any actions he has, or intends to take, to
20 ensure that all trading partners of the United States are abiding by the
21 spirit and letter of international trade agreements with respect to imports
22 of steel products into the United States.

23 SECTION 5. That the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit copies
24 of this Resolution to the President of the United States, and to the United
25 States Trade Representative.

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